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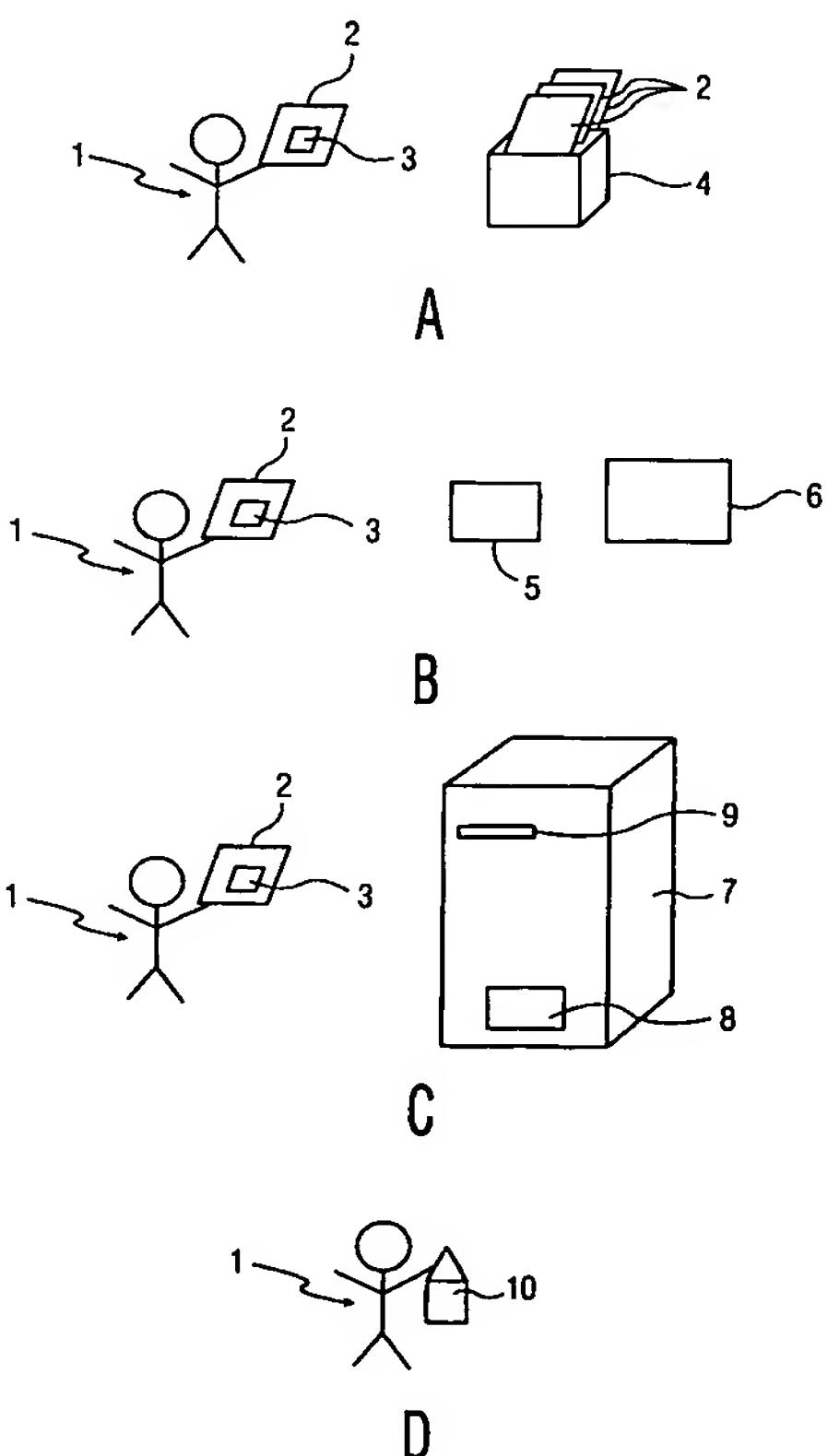
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PACKAGING AND DISPENSING SAMPLES IN A SALES ENVIRONMENT



(57) Abstract: The invention includes a system for, a method for, and a method of doing business including dispensing samples. These include a sample card distributor (4); a machine-readable label (3) incorporated in a sample card (2), a machine-readable label writer (6) for writing data associated with a product (5) onto the machine-readable label (3), and a device for distributing samples (7) which includes a machine-readable label reader (9) for reading the machine-readable label (3); a database (12) containing sample information; means for packaging and distributing samples (14); and a processor (11) for receiving data from the machine-readable label reader (9), obtaining sample information from the database (12), and directing the means for packaging and distributing samples (14) to package and distribute at least one sample.

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